

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LISBON 02258 211823Z  
ACTION EUR-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-01 PA-01 /005 W  
-----211842Z 027220 /47

P R 211643Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0630  
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LISBON 02258

USINFO FOR IOP/M, IBS/PE/HAUSEMAN

USIA FOR IEU/MCLAUGHLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN PO US  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. HUMAN RIGHTS: TOPIC CONTINUES TO RECEIVE MAJOR MEDIA ATTENTION. PRO-COMMUNIST PRESS IS ORCHESTRATING SOVIET-LINE COUNTERTHRUSTS, ON THEMES SUCH AS "WHAT ABOUT U.S. INDIANS, BLACKS AND OTHERS" -- TRYING TO SMEAR U.S. CREDIBILITY IN HUMAN-RIGHTS AREA. BUT PRESS MATERIALS FAVORABLE TO U.S. EFFORTS ARE FAR OUT-DISTANCING THOSE ATTACKS. SEPTTEL SENT ON LOWENSTEIN VISIT MEDIA REACTION. FOR INSTANCE, MARCH 19 CENTRIST "A CAPITAL" CARRIED TWO-PAGE ROUNDUP ARTICLE ON ISSUE HEADLINED, "DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AWAKENS THE WORLD'S CONSCIENCE." FULL-PAGE ANALYSIS OF CARTER HUMAN-RIGHTS POLICIES IN WEEKLY PRO-PSD "EXPRSSO" NEWSPAPER OF MARCH 18 WAS HEADLINED, "WHAT MAKES JIMMY CARTER RUN?" WRITER JOAO ISIDRO SAID U.S. HUMAN-RIGHTS STAND "WOULD BE SOMEWHAT SURREALISTIC, AND EVEN ATTRACTIVE, IF CITIZEN JAMES CARTER WERE NOT HEADING A SUPERPOWER WHICH, IN FACT, LEADS IN TERMS OF ARMAMENTS AND HAS WAR MATERIALS  
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WHICH WOULD LEAVE NOT A WALL STANDING IF IT DECIDED TO COMMIT SUICIDE ACCOMPANIED BY THE REST OF OUR PLANET." ANALYSIS DAMNS BIG POWER POLITICS, AS IS CUSTOMARY FOR THIS WRITER, AND CYNICALLY INDICATES THAT CARTER HAS USED HUMAN-RIGHTS STANDS TO GAIN CONFIDENCE OF AMERICAN PUBLIC, POSSIBLY TO MOVE ON TO HARDER-LINE APPROACHES LATER-- AS JOHN KENNEDY

DID IN HIS TIME, ACCORDING TO ISIDRO.

2. SALT: COMMENTARY SIGNED BY ANTONIO ADRESSEN  
GUIMARAES IN MARCH 18 "EXPRESSO" SURVEYED HISTORY AND  
STATUS QUO OF SALT NEGOTIATIONS. CONCLUSION: U.S.  
-SOVIET AGREEMENTS THUS FAR "PRODUCED IMPORTANT  
DETENTE EFFECTS. BUT THERE ALSO ARE DEFICIENCIES:  
THE LIMITED ACCORDS HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF CEILINGS (QUITE HIGH ONES) FOR NUCLEAR ARMS,  
FORGETTING THE NECESSITY OF PUTTING RESTRICTIONS  
ON THE QUALITATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NUCLEAR SYSTEMS.  
ANOTHER NEGATIVE ASPECT IS THE ABSENCE OF GREAT BRITAIN,  
FRANCE AND CHINA IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS..."

3. CARTER U.N. ADDRESS: GIVEN MODERATELY HEAVY PLAY.  
ONLY COMMENTARY SO FAR WAS IN MARCH 19 COMMUNIST  
"O DIARIO", WHICH SAID CARTER SPOKE ONLY IN "GENERALITIES."  
PAPER SAID, "REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS, CARTER REFRAINED  
FROM MENTIONING ANY SPECIFIC COUNTRY. AND WELL HE  
SHOULD HAVE, BECAUSE PATRIOTISM SURELY WOULD HAVE NOT  
PERMITTED HIM TO FAIL TO MENTION HIS OWN COUNTRY AS ONE  
OF THOSE WHICH MOST FREQUENTLY VIOLATES HUMAN RIGHTS,  
WITHIN AND WITHOUT ITS BORDERS."  
REFERRING TO CARTER REMARKS ON WORKING WITH SOVIET UNION  
TO REDUCE EFFECTS OF ARM RACE, "O DIARIO" SAID: "IT  
WOULD BE WELL FOR CARTER THINK MORE ABOUT THAT STATEMENT  
AND PREVENT THE COLD WAR "THEORIES" OF MR. BRZEZINSKI  
FROM CONTINUING TO FEED IMPERIALISTIC PROPAGANDA AGAINST  
THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."  
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JORDAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009